

## Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., February 7, 1899

S. Jones, Esq.,

1312 27th Street,

Des Moines, Iowa.

Sir:

The following is respectfully submitted in reply to the inquiries contained in your letter of the 26th ultimo:

- 1st. The cost of one pound of one-cent bronze blanks is .1894¢ per pound avoirdupois, and will coin \$1.46 .  
The cost of five-cent nickel blanks is .3194 per pound , and will coin \$4.44
- 2nd. Silver is being added to the circulation to the extent of the seigniorage on the coinage of silver dollars for each month . The coinage of the same from July 1, to December 31 1898 was \$8,248,335., upon which the seigniorage was \$2,508,912.
- 3rd. The coinage of gold is free . I have sent you by mail , a copy of Department Circular No. 143, in which you will find full explanation of the coinage of gold and silver.

Respectfully yours,

*A. H. Butler*  
Acting Director of the Mint.

S.